GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1499
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
CORRUPTION IN LABOUR UNIONS OF FCI
Chandel Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rampant corruption is prevalent in labour unions of Food Corporation of India (FCI)throughout the country particularly in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether some officials of labour unions have criminal background;

(c) if so, whether the labourers are forced to pay hefty graft in the guise of donation for the membership of the said unions especially in Punjab;

(d) if so, whether the FCI has ignored the problem despite authentic knowledge about the same;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps Government proposes to take to eradicate this problem?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Labour Unions have got legal sanctity under the Trade Union Act. The members and office bearers of the Labour Unions are bound to function within the framework of rules registered under the Trade Union Act. The irregularities committed by them in the functioning of the Union on financial or other matters make them liable for penal action under the provisions of the Trade Union Act or other law of the land.

The collection of membership subscription and admission of a member is within the purview of the Labour Unions. It is the responsibility of the office bearers of the Labour Unions to function within the framework of the registered rules of the Labour Union. The action for irregularities lies with the appropriate authority under the law.

(d) & (e) Does not arise, in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) above.

(f): Action is taken as per law.